

Public Health & Social Services Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: October 2, 2019 – 5:00 PM
LOCATION: K.L. Binder Library, 6th Floor, C.O.B.
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Craig Lopez
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT: Legislators Nolan, Brenda Maloney, Petit, Lopez (arrived 5:13 PM)
ABSENT: Legislator Collins
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Marc Rider Deputy County Executive, Anthony Mignone CEO RCAL Inc., Marie Shultis Executive Director AWARENESS and Pam Perkins AWARENESS Licensed Volunteer Social Worker, Barbara Hill UC Community Services Board

Deputy Chair Nolan called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM offering round table introductions.

Motion No. 1: Moved to Approve the Minutes of the September 4, 2019 meeting

Motion By: Legislator Petit
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Nolan, B. Maloney, Petit
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Minutes **APPROVED**

2020 UC Legislative Budget Requests

➤ Resource Center for Accessible Living, Inc. (RCAL), CEO Anthony Mignone

Mr. Mignone came before the committee requesting \$30K funding to expand their employment program staff, noting they are the only independent living center in Ulster County. (see attached program information)

Committee discussion ensued as to how RCAL should submit funding requests going forward, possibly through the RFQ process vs. Legislative request for funding. Deputy County Exec. Rider suggested entering a generic budget line item earmarked for “disability advocacy.” The committee expressed they would like to support this agency and to learn the internal process better as to when an agency should request funding.

- AWARENESS, Executive Director Marie Shultis, Pam Perkins 6-Yr. AWARENESS Volunteer Licensed Social Worker & Saugerties Private Practice

Ms. Shultis came before the committee requesting \$20K funding to continue providing direct peer to peer support to young people ages 16-26 utilizing evidenced based practices including New Paltz and Ellenville health classrooms, and after school programs. Although this successful program continues to grow and anticipates expanding services with additional Ulster County school districts such as Highland, it is underfunded and understaffed. Ms. Perkins provided an overview of the Peer to Peer substance abuse intervention/educational program and a glimpse how this horrific addiction affects our youth and their family. Committee discussion continued with similar concerns how the agency should request funding going forward. (see attached program/budget information)

Resolutions for the October 15, 2019 Session of the Legislature

Resolution No. 414: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Woods Services, Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contact with Woods Services, Inc. for foster care professional services. \$350k, 36% Federal, 29% State, 35% County. Contract dates 7/1/2019 – 6/30/2020.

Motion No. 2 **Moved to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 414**

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Petit

Discussion:

At the request of Chair Petit Commissioner Iapoce although not at the meeting provided this overview of Woods Services Inc. via email prior to the meeting. This organization provides a variety of services, including a residential clinical treatment model for adolescent who have histories of trauma as well as co-occurring psychiatric and/or developmental disabilities. While the Woods may offer transient short-term care that would not be the programming that we would place adolescents in. DSS has not previously contracted with the Woods and this is the first time DSS is making a Foster Care Placement there. The County has previously had Committee on Special Education (CSE) children placed there but there are not contracts required for those placements as they are arrived at through the school districts.

Legislator Nolan noted the need to be prepared with a contract in place if and when services are required.

As with all children placed in Residential Treatment Centers (RTC), the goal is to place a child into a program which would best meet his/her individual and specific needs in the least restrictive environment. The child that is the subject of this placement, who is in the care and custody of the Commissioner of DSS, requires the multifaceted residential services that Woods offers. Confidentiality prohibits the disclosure of additional identifying characteristics or specifics, however this child presents with a complex history of medical, behavioral and mental health diagnoses which require unique and intensive levels of specialized care and treatment. In light of his/her history, current needs, and the ultimate goal of independence within his/her community, the residential treatment program at Woods was determined to be the best fit. In addition, none of the other RTCs that we currently contract with were deemed appropriate for this child needs.

The residential program at Wood is explained in detail beginning on page 33 of the Foster Care agreement that is being presented for the Legislature's consideration. Committee discussion ensued regarding foster care and foster care facilities.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Lopez, Nolan, B. Maloney, Petit
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolutions adopted

New/Old Business

Chair Lopez asked if there was any other business, and hearing none;

Adjournment

Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Petit
No. of Votes in Favor:	4
No. of Votes Against:	0

TIME: 6:00 PM

Respectfully submitted: Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Staff

Minutes Approved: November 4, 2019

Ulster County Legislature Agency Request for Funding

Please complete the form in full. If further space is needed, please attach additional documentation to the form. Upon submission, please attach upcoming years budget and financial statements (audited if applicable). Completed form and additional back up may be submitted to nkel@co.ulster.ny.us

Agency / Organization Name: Resource Center for Accessible Living

Agency / Organization Description: Disability Advocacy organization
promoting independence in all aspects of life and community living.

Contact Name: Anthony Mignone, (RCAL)

Contact Title: CEO

Contact Phone: 845-331-0541 ext. 11

Contact Email: amignone@rcal.org

2020 Requested Funding Amount: \$30,000

2019 Funding Awarded (if applicable): 0

How does the Agency / Organization support our community?

With 14 different programs promoting independence and integration into the community. Our Services, with virtually no cost to the individuals, include the durable medical equipment loan closet, 4 employment programs, benefits advisement, educational advocacy, architectural modification, nursing home transition diversion service coordination, health homes, olmstead housing services and more.

Please give a detailed breakdown of how funding will be utilized.

Attach additional documentation if necessary.

Funds would be used to expand the Employment Program Staff as outlined in the Cost and Deliverables section of the attachment, bottom of page 2 continuing on to page 3.



Intro of Purpose: RCAL, the Resource Center for Accessible Living, Inc. is seeking funding of \$30,000 to expand its employment services and extend public access to our durable medical equipment loan closet. These funds would help offset Administrative Salaries for the department and allow us to expand our programs, integrate additional layers of programming and expand our operating hours of our current prevoc loan closet program. As the program grows it will not only increase the employability of persons with disabilities in Ulster County, it will create jobs here within the department to serve those individuals and expand to assist additional individuals with disabilities.

RCAL's History:

Mission: RCAL's mission is to create accessibility and choice for persons with disabilities in Ulster County and surrounding communities through advocacy, self-determination and services promoting inclusion, empowerment and participation in all aspects of life.

Vision: Our vision is to create a fully accessible, integrated community without barriers for people with disabilities; to assist, empower individuals with disabilities to live independently and participate in all aspects of community life.

History: Founded in 1983, RCAL belongs to a network of approximately 40 Independent Living Centers scattered throughout New York State. RCAL's founder, Joan Gundersen, saw a real need for education and advocacy after an accident left her with a permanent disability. Today, RCAL continues to advocate for the rights and needs of individuals of all ages with disabilities thru over fourteen different programs.

The mission of Independent Living Centers is to enhance the ability of persons with all types of disabilities to determine their own destinies, participate in all aspects of society and contribute to and share their responsibility in community life. To this end, centers pursue objectives that address the personal needs of individuals as well as improve social and environmental aspects of their local communities including employment services.

We have a proven track record of working with persons with disabilities and helping them to remain in the community and living as independently as possible or regain their independence by returning to the community from an institutional setting.

Program:

By continuing to integrate our current employment programs (Listed separately in a table below) we will be able to create an Employment Center where these programs can grow in capacity and breath of services. We have some great synergistic certainty and advantages at our disposal. On our current property we have the perfect "storefront" building available to create an employment center that will provide space that the program is in great need of. RCAL owns the building; the back side is currently used for storage and our loan closet.

cost effective and available for individuals who need them. For example, there is some profit in the SEMP program which allows us to off set the pathways and AVR programs that lose money. There are no funds for some of the needed services so expanding them becomes complicated. As a non-for-profit dedicated to Ulster County and its disabled community, we are more concerned with providing appropriate and valuable programs that create profits, while balancing our fiduciary responsibility to stay fiscally sound.

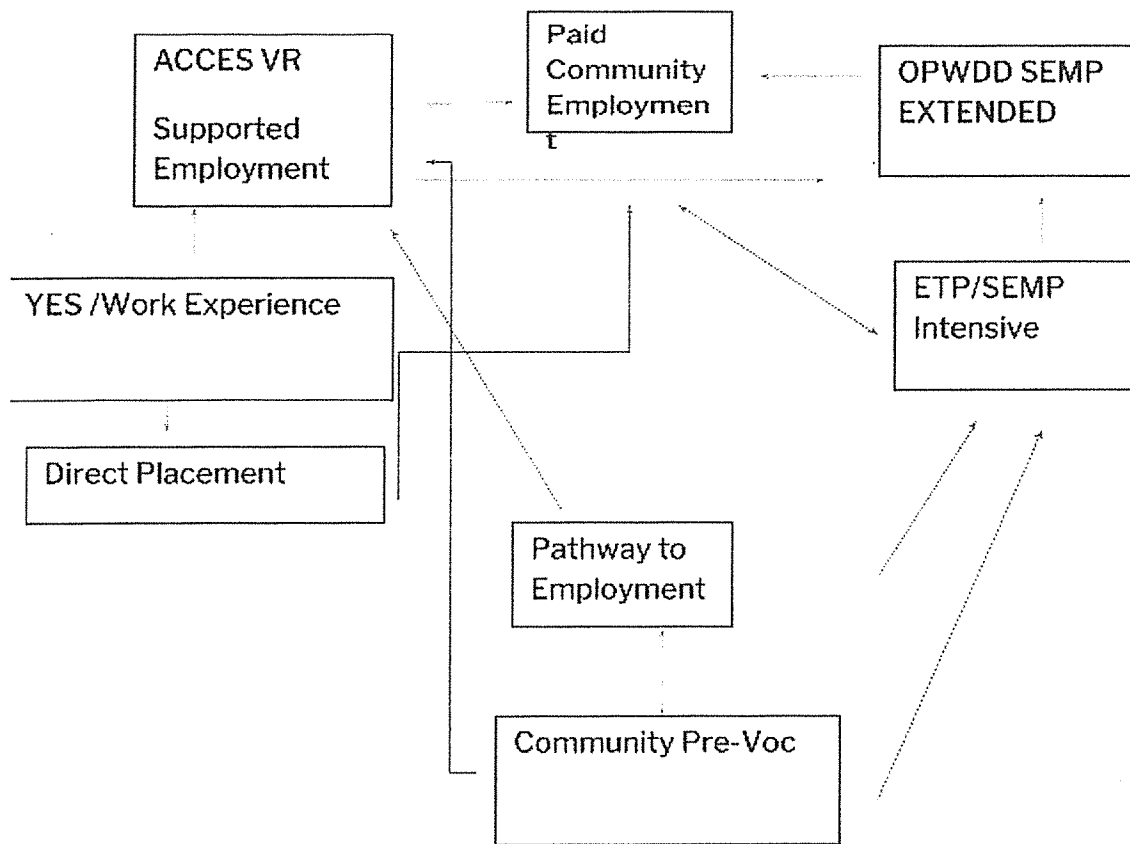
Deliverables:

- This funding will allow us to create 2 part time positions for qualified trainers who will be able to assist us in serving roughly 20 individuals thru the Prevocational program annually.
- Additionally, monthly workshops will be held in topics such as behavior modification, social skills, special education, benefits advisement, Ticket to Work and more.
- Expanded Availability of the Loan Closet to the Prevocational program individuals, which will assist the community in having more access to durable medical equipment.
- Workstations will allow for Online training in Microsoft office Products, Typing Skills and Guided assistance with Job Applications with a life RCAL employment specialist by your side to assist.

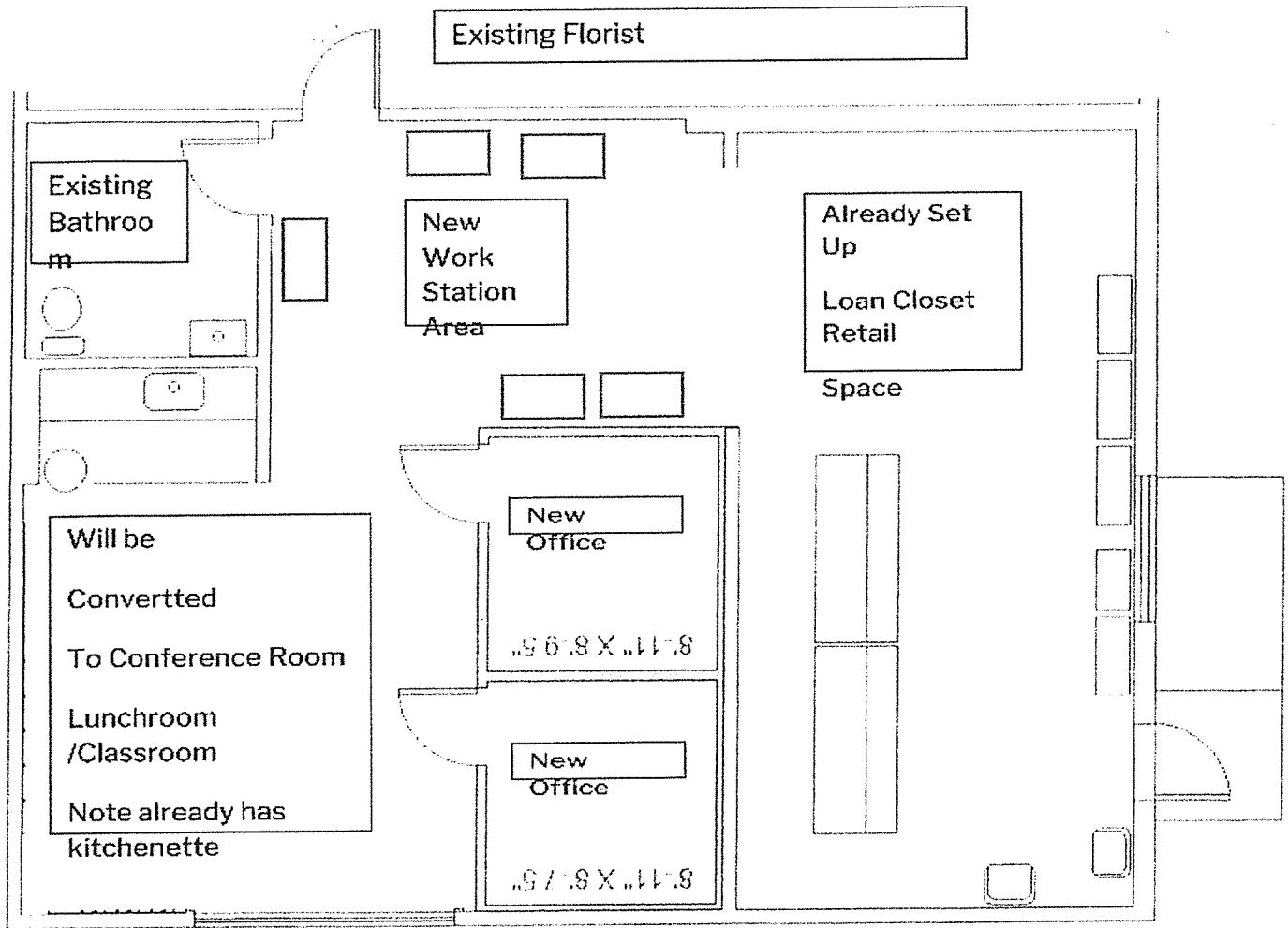
RCAL will prepare a summation report at the end of one complete program year to show our accomplishments and sustainability. Thank you for taking the time to consider our proposal. If you have any questions or concerns at any time please feel free to call me, Anthony Mignone, 845-389-2132.

These programs work together, and individuals can move between programs as they progress with their skills. RCAL's Programs help members of our community become employable and obtain employment, promoting independent living in Ulster County.

How these services work together:



A Look at the layout of the Employment Center.



Greystone believes that all people can be productive, contributing members of our working community. We will provide Pathway to Employment program participants with job training and skills to overcome any misconceptions, ignorance and prejudice regarding the abilities of people with disabilities to perform jobs. An emphasis will be made on improving employment outcomes for youth transitioning from high school.

Individuals enrolled in Pathway to Employment will be trained with skills for community integration and competitive employment, resulting in:

- ♦ Greater opportunities to develop ongoing and meaningful relationships
 - ♦ Increased independence
 - ♦ Improved self-confidence



OUR MISSION

Greystone Programs provides exceptional services and life-enriching opportunities for children, adults, and families living with Autism and other developmental disabilities. Project FAME and Club Atlas, our day habilitation programs, strive to provide independence and full integration of our participants within the community.



Making Deliveries

Pathway to Employment is Project FAME's newest service. It is a person-centered, comprehensive employment planning and support service designed to help people with special needs achieve competitive or self-employment—outside of a sheltered workshop—at a fair wage. It is a limited time offering that engages participants to identify career directions, provide training and pre-employment skills, and develop a plan to achieve competitive, integrated employment at or above minimum wage.



Based in Hopewell Junction, New York, Greystone Programs is a nonprofit human services agency that provides essential services and life-enriching opportunities in five Hudson Valley, New York counties for children, adults and families living with autism and other developmental disabilities.

Founded in 1979 by Marc W. Kelley, Greystone Programs offered the first privately-run group home in New York State for people with Autism. Our groundbreaking initiative was the first to take people out of traditional institutions and instead offer them opportunities to live as family in small, comfortable group homes with caring, inspiring staff. For those seven men with Autism, it was home, and more importantly, a new lease on life. It was the first time people with Autism were able to live as neighbors in a community.

Today we offer 14 group homes and one apartment in three counties, as well as community-based initiatives that include After School and School Break Programs, Social Skills Programs, Day Habilitation Services, Community Habilitation, Medicaid Service Coordination, In-Home Behavior Therapy, Family Education and Training, Family Enrichment Nights, Respite and Bridges to Health Programs for children with Autism who are also in foster care.

Administrative Offices :

Greystone Programs, Inc.
2070 Rt. 52, Building 330D, 2nd Floor
Hopewell Junction, New York 12533
(845) 452-5772 Fax: (845) 452-9338
www.greystoneprograms.org



PATHWAY To EMPLOYMENT



*Job Coaching, Training & Job Placement
Services for people with Developmental
Disabilities*

Exceptional services and life-enriching opportunities for children, adults and families living with Autism and other developmental disabilities

Greystone Programs, Inc.
42 Violet Avenue
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601
(845) 452-5772 Fax: (845) 452-9971
www.greystoneprograms.org

PATHWAY TO EMPLOYMENT

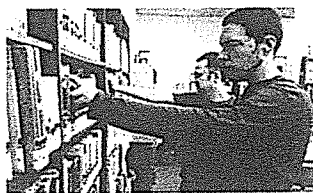
Frequently Asked Questions

1) What service are included?

Services will be person-centered and may include: vocational assessment, situational assessments, job readiness training, community experiences, pre-employment skills, job-related discovery, travel training, career exploration, education and counseling about benefits management, assessment for use of assistive technology to increase independence in the workplace, and career planning.

2) Who is eligible?

Pathway to Employment is available as a HCBS waiver service to individuals who express an interest in community employment, including individuals who are currently receiving day habilitation, workshop, pre-vocational and supported employment services. This service will also be available to students leaving high school.



Working at the Library

3) How long will the service last?

This service is available for up to 12 months from the participant's start date, or up to 278 hours of service, whichever occurs first.

4) What will be the outcome?

Upon completion of the program, participants will have documentation of their stated career objective and a detailed career plan that can be used to guide individual employment supports.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- ♦ Interpersonal Interviews and Assessments
- ♦ Vocational Skill Building
- ♦ Job Readiness Programs
- ♦ Opportunities for Volunteer Activities
- ♦ Resume Development and Interview Skill Building



Pathway to Employment
Greystone Programs, Inc.
42 Violet Avenue
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
845-452-5772, x102
Greystoneprograms.org

Ulster County Legislature Agency Request for Funding

Please complete the form in full. If further space is needed, please attach additional documentation to the form. Upon submission, please attach upcoming years budget and financial statements (audited if applicable). Completed form and additional back up may be submitted to nkel@co.ulster.ny.us

Agency / Organization Name: AWARENESS Inc

Agency / Organization Description: Peer to Peer Behavioral Health

Contact Name: Marie Shultis

Contact Title: Executive Director

Contact Phone: 845-417-1484

Contact Email: ucawarenessprogram@gmail.com

2020 Requested Funding Amount: 20,000.00

2019 Funding Awarded (if applicable): 12,500.00

How does the Agency / Organization support our community?

We provide direct peer to peer support to young people ages 16-26 utilizing evidence based practices in New Paltz and Ellenville, and are also expanding into more school districts.

Please give a detailed breakdown of how funding will be utilized.

Attach additional documentation if necessary.

AWARENESS 2019 Request	
Program Materials	\$4,800.00
Pizza/Water	\$3,700.00
Outreach	\$2000.00
Professional Consultants/Training	
Staff Development	\$2,500.00
Professional Liability	\$2,500.00



What is Awareness, Inc.?

AWARENESS Inc. is a nonprofit that has been in existence for 12 years providing educational programs using evidence-based practices in a group format. It includes five separate components.

The common goal of all AWARENESS programs is to help youth build positive relationships with themselves and others while learning cognitive skills that support healthy decision making. The peer led group format empowers them to utilize what they learned to help others.

The following three programs utilize a non-judgmental peer to peer approach to address behavioral health, substance use, anger, coping skills etc. for youth ages 16 to 30, to help them change their attitudes and identify if behavior modification is needed. Groups are divided by age and risk level.

AWARENESS Inc. Peer Facilitated Self Help Program*

School and Community based educational cognitive skill building program targeting youth, ages 16 - 18 and 18 - 30, that engages adolescents from the same age and risk level in an 8-week program led by trained peer leaders.

AWARENESS Inc. Peer Facilitated Self Help Program for Youth at Higher Risk

Cognitive skill building group for youth ages 18 – 30 out of high school who are struggling with addiction. Young people in solid recovery are trained as peer leaders who also help participants connect to care resources. Participants are encouraged to stay involved, are supported if other levels of care are necessary. When appropriate they are invited back as part of an aftercare plan, to build a sober network and eventually once in solid recovery to train to become peer leaders.

AWARENESS Inc. The Next Step Group

A wellness job/career networking group for young people aged 18 to 25. With guidance from professionals in the community who love what they do, participants are engaged in helping each other to find the next step towards professional development and meaningful satisfying work.

AWARENESS Narcan Trainings

In 2018, Narcan Trainings were provided by Marie Shultis and local youth in partnership with Hudson Valley Community Services, the Ulster County Sheriff, Town Supervisors, SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz High School, the NYS Office of Mental Health and Ulster County Legislators, Richard Parete, John Parete, Carl Belfiglio, Ron Lapp, David Donaldson and Craig Lopez.

Additional Projects

AWARENESS Inc. is excited to announce a new group is presently in development, in New Paltz District

Tuning In

This wellness group encourages middle school aged children to tune in to healthy, close, caring relationships with self and others, instead of tuning out with Video Games and Social Media. We will also address: hurtful relationships, substances (including vaping) mental health (anger, anxiety, depression) as well as Bullying.

Recently, AWARENESS collaborated with One Strike Fitness and other community sponsors, to plan a campaign to help energize young people to connect around positive peer activities. The campaign will culminate in a support rally for local athlete Sella Rega as she attempts to break the Guinness World Book of records for jump roping.

ABOUT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In her role as Executive Director of Awareness, Marie Shultis serves on many Committees and Boards including the following:

NYS Families Together Family Peer Advocate Training and Credentialing Advisory Committee

Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors NYS Planning Consortium Mid-Hudson Region Board

NYS Mental Health Hudson River Regional Coalition Member- Advocate

Marie is a Certified CCAR Recovery Coach trainer, Ethics and Professionalism trainer and is currently training to be a Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainer, she can provide these trainings for adolescents.

*AWARENESS Inc.'s 8-week program has been documented as an effective early intervention program. During its early development, Dr. Hongyan Cui, Ph.D. in Program Evaluation, Measurement and Research Design, found that 90% of the AWARENESS participants assessed, identified an increased perceived need to change their behavior after completing the program.

Thank you for taking time to read about AWARENESS Inc.'s services in the community.

Contact Information:

Marie Shultis 845-417-1484

ucawarenessprogram@gmail.com

5:03 PM
09/10/19
Accrual Basis

Awareness Education Program
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
January through December 2020

	Jan - Dec 20
Operations	
Fund Raising	1,200.00
Postage, Mailing Service	100.00
Printing and Copying	244.40
Supplies	930.00
Training Materials	1,200.00
Total Operations	3,674.40
Other Types of Expenses	
Insurance - Liability, D and O	880.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	880.00
Professional Fees	
Donated Professional Fees	4,000.00
Professional Development	500.00
Consulting	4,150.00
Total Professional Fees	8,650.00
Travel Expenses	
Mileage Reimbursement	6,485.29
Travel Expenses - Other	0.00
Total Travel Expenses	6,485.29
Total Expense	27,150.44
Net Ordinary Income	-3,611.99
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
Donated Expenses	-8,000.00
Total Other Expense	-8,000.00
Net Other Income	8,000.00
Net Income	4,388.01

Awareness Education Program
Profit & Loss
January through December 2018

	Jan - Dec 18
Travel Expenses	
Mileage Reimbursement	3,621.41
Travel Expenses - Other	60.48
Total Travel Expenses	3,681.89
Total Expense	25,592.07
Net Ordinary Income	-2,898.47
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
Donated Expenses	-8,000.00
Total Other Expense	-8,000.00
Net Other Income	8,000.00
Net Income	5,101.53

2018 AWARENESS Total Contacts Served

2018 - February - New Paltz went to Ellenville to Speak in Health Classes Health Class Participation -

- 5 New Paltz High School Student Speakers/Trainers
 - 4 Older Peer Leader Speakers/Trainers
 - 73 Ellenville Student Health Class Participants
- = 85 Contacts**

2018 - February - New Paltz went to Ellenville to do all day Intro to 8 Week Program and Speakers

- 30 Ellenville Students spent the day in the training
 - 5 New Paltz Student Peer Leader Volunteers
 - 4 Older Youth Peer Leader Volunteers
- = 39 Contacts**

2018 - February - June 12 week program Peer to Peer Ellenville students 35 Students = 420 Contacts

2018- Jan - June-New Paltz - Older Youth Program

January - June: 200 contacts
September - November: 100
10 Participants and Volunteers
= 310 Contacts

2018 - May -New Paltz High School Speak in Health Classes

180 Students in classes
5 Youth speakers each day
= 190 Contacts

2018 - Jan - June -New Paltz High After School Program including ongoing 8 week program Participants and Volunteers 26

2018 Oct. - Present
10 Volunteers
= 720 Contacts

2018 -June New Paltz High School - Student Government Classes

80 -Students in classes
2 Speakers
= 82 Contacts

2018 Nov 28 & 29 Presentation

105 students
6 speakers
= 111 Contacts

Total Number 1,918 Contacts

Narcan Training

February 6th - New Paltz High School 28